



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Policy Workgroup**

April 26, 2019

10:00 AM

Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council

1951 West Camelback Road, Suite 202

Phoenix, AZ 85015

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Policy Workgroup (PW) was convened on April 26, 2019. The public were invited to attend in person at the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council, 1951 West Camelback Road, Suite 202, Phoenix, AZ 85015, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (7)	
Elizabeth Ortiz, Co-Chair, Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council	
Andy LeFevre, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission	
Cara Christ, Arizona Department of Health Services	
Dawn Mertz, Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area	
Jeff Beaver, Maricopa County Attorney's Office	
Merilee Fowler, Matforce	
Paul Aguirre, National Guard Counter Drug Taskforce	
Staff/Guests Present (3)	Members Absent (3)
Samuel Burba, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Maria Cristina Fuentes, Co-Chair, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Christopher Luke Peterson, Ph.D., University of Arizona College of Medicine	Shana Malone, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
Hillary Tamar, Ph.D., University of Arizona College of Medicine	Wanda Wright, Arizona Department of Veterans Service

Call to Order

- **Elizabeth Ortiz, Co-Chairperson**, called the PW meeting to order at 10:04 AM with 7 members and 3 staff/members of the public present.

Welcome and Introduction

- **Co-Chairperson Ortiz** welcomed everyone in attendance, thanked them for being a part of the Policy Workgroup and requested each member present introduce themselves and clearly state their name, agency and title.

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership Strategic Plan

- **Samuel Burba**, Governor Office of Youth, Faith and Family, provided a presentation of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership Strategic Plan. During the presentation, **Mr. Burba** informed the members which workgroups were accomplishing each section of the strategic plan.
- **Mr. Burba** stated that the Policy Workgroup has been tasked with reviewing state laws concerning substance abuse prevention, treatment and criminal justice in order to develop policy recommendation for consideration by the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership.

Medication Assisted Treatment

- **Christopher Luke Peterson, Ph.D.** provided a presentation on medication assisted treatment (MAT). **Dr. Peterson** defined MAT as a treatment used in a sociopsychobiologic approach to addressing addiction. Specifically, MAT is a biomedical treatment. Dr. Peterson was clear that MAT is more effective when the entire sociopsychobiologic model is used.
- **Dr. Peterson** also discussed the efficacy, length of treatment, use with pregnant women, and common perceptions of MAT. The Workgroup asked several questions regarding the appropriate length of treatment for MAT. While **Dr. Peterson** was clear that there is no prescribed length of treatment, patient outcomes increased for individuals on a controlled dose of MAT for more than one year. **Dr. Peterson** stated that relapse was a persistent concern for all MAT patients that were tapering off the medication.
- **Dr. Peterson** discussed challenges with accessing MAT in the state of Arizona stating that only 40% of treatment centers offer MAT, stating that there was an opportunity to expand access to MAT in rural areas primarily through telemedicine services.
- **Chairperson Ortiz** thanked **Dr. Peterson** for his presentation.

Recommendations/Report Out for ASAP

- **Chairperson Ortiz** opened discussion on how the PW would like to determine recommendations and make report outs to the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership.
- The PW discussed focusing on recommendations for substance abuse prevention. After those recommendations were submitted, the PW would consider developing recommendations on treatment, criminal justice and law enforcement.
- The PW recommended the following areas for focused discussion, consensus and recommendations:
 - Ability to analyze Arizona Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP) to identify emerging drug trends for the state of Arizona. **Dawn Mertz** stated that other states in the union were analyzing their CSPMP data and confirming that prescribed stimulants were following a similar trajectory as prescribed opioids.
 - Presentations from the U.S. Department of Justice on what constitutes a HIPA violation when sharing data to identify areas for targeted intervention and prevention activities.
 - Streamline and improve data sharing across state agencies. The PW stated that Maryland, Ohio and Nevada were doing good work in this area.
 - Regulations and access to marijuana, vaping and alcohol for Arizona youth. Review the Arizona Medical Marijuana Law with presentation from the Arizona Department of Health Services on youth access to and use of medicinal marijuana.

2019 Meeting Dates

- **Chairperson Ortiz** notified the workgroup that the next meeting date is June 7, 2019 beginning at 10:00 AM and asked that members mark their calendars.

Call to the Public

- **Chairperson Ortiz** conducted a call to the public. No members of the public addressed the PW.

Adjourn

- **Chairperson Ortiz** adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM.

Dated the twenty-sixth day of April 2019
Policy Workgroup
Respectfully Submitted By:
Samuel Burba
Director of Substance Abuse Initiatives
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family